

SENATE BILL 3311
By Burks

AN ACT relative to the Cookeville General Hospital and to amend Chapter 223 of the Private Acts of 1961, as amended by Chapter 161 of the Private Acts of 1986, Chapter 191 of the Private Acts of 1988, Chapter 86 of the Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 121 of the Private Acts of 1996, and any other acts amendatory thereto, being the Charter of the City of Cookeville.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 223 of the Private Acts of 1961, as amended by Chapter 161 of the Private Acts of 1986, Chapter 191 of the Private Acts of 1988, and Chapter 86 of the Private Acts of 1989, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Section 9.14 of Article IX in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

Section 9.14. Leasing of Hospital Facilities. Be it further enacted that a referendum of the voters of the City of Cookeville approving the leasing of the assets, buildings, and real property of the hospital and clinical facilities owned by the City of Cookeville, including the facilities known as Cookeville General Hospital, is required prior to such leasing by the city council except as follows:

(a) The board of trustees of the Cookeville General Hospital by majority vote of its membership adopts a resolution that finds and declares that part of the buildings and real property of such facilities is no longer needed by the board of trustees for the operation of such hospital and clinical facilities; that such buildings and property are surplus; and that the board recommends to the city council that such property be leased by the city; and

(b) After a public hearing, the city council by unanimous vote of its membership, approves the recommendations of the board of trustees of the Cookeville General Hospital for the leasing of such portion of the property.

A referendum required by this section shall be held at any general election or city election or may be held at a special election called for such purpose. The ballots used in such election shall have printed on them the substance of the proposed lease of such hospital or real property and the voters shall vote for or against its approval.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a majority of the number of qualified voters of the City of Cookeville voting in an election on the question of whether or not the act should be approved. The ballots used in the regular election to be held on August 1, 1996, shall have printed on them the substance of this act and the voters shall vote for or against its approval. The votes cast on the question shall be canvassed and the results proclaimed by the county election commissioners and certified by them to the secretary of state as provided by law in the case of general elections. The qualifications of voters voting on the question shall be the same as those required for participation in general elections. All laws applicable to general elections shall apply to the determination of the approval or rejection of this act. The cost of the election shall be paid by the City of Cookeville.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, as provided in Section 2, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, but for all other purposes the provisions of the act shall be effective only upon being approved as provided in Section 2.

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